

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:)
Takashi HOSOYA et al.) Group Art Unit: 3673
Serial No. 10/550,397) Examiner: Robert G. Santos
Filed: 03/26/2004)
For: STRETCHER, STRETCHER SYSTEM) Date: November 2, 2007
AND METHOD FOR USING)
STRETCHER)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION
[37 CFR 1.8(a)]

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop _____, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO at 571 273 8300, on November 2, 2007.

Signature: _____

Name: Jeannie Saxton _____

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION/ELECTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 3, 2007, Applicants hereby elect Species 1, Figures 1-6, wherein claims 1-9 and 11 are readable thereon, for prosecution on the merits. Currently, as noted by the Examiner, at least claims 1, 2, 8 and 9 are generic to all species.

Should the Examiner believe a conference would be of benefit in expediting the prosecution of the instant application, she is hereby invited to telephone counsel to arrange such a conference.

Respectfully submitted,

/Donald R. Studebaker/
Donald R. Studebaker
Reg. No. 32,815

Nixon Peabody LLP
401 9th Street N.W.
Suite 900
Washington, D. C. 20004
(202) 585-8000